

Medway Community Safety Partnership

Strategic Assessment 2018



COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Contents

Item	Page
Introduction	2
Executive Summary	3 - 4
Key Partnership Meetings	5 - 6
Overview	7 - 10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What We Have Been Doing 	7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Crime Picture in Context 	8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Recorded Crime 	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASB (anti-social behaviour) 	10
Progress on Existing Priorities	11 - 18
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening Communities 	11 - 13
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Victims and Tackling Offenders of Sexual and Domestic Abuse 	13 - 14
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackling the Harm Caused by Substance Misuse 	14 - 15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing Re-offending 	16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to Safeguarding and Improving Services 	17 - 18
Listening to the Public	19
Background and Data Information	20
Glossary of Terms	21
Appendix	22 - 24
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Figure 1 – Breakdown of Crime Types 	22

• Figure 2 – Crime by Ward	23
• Figure 3 - Anti-Social Behaviour by Ward	24

Introduction

Medway Community Safety Partnership (CSP) brings together the key agencies involved in crime prevention and community safety work. This includes; Medway Council, Kent Police, Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company (KSS CRC), Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS) and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

To ensure we continue to address the crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) issues that are having an impact on Medway we:

- Conduct an annual Community Safety Strategic Assessment to collate and analyse data and crime patterns.
- Listen to the views and concerns of Medway residents and undertake consultations to ensure we address the issues that matter the most to residents.
- Review and monitor performance and delivery against objectives
- Strive to build and maintain strong relationships between partner agencies to ensure a cohesive approach to tackling crime and ASB.

The purpose of the strategic assessment is to provide an analysis of the levels and patterns of crime and disorder. The assessment analyses any changes since the previous assessment and will review the possible causes as well as assessing the implementation of the previous Community Safety Plan. Consideration will be given to the views of Medway's residents and what they identify as priorities together with the analysis of crime and disorder to identify the key matters that the Partnership should prioritise.

This report is a summary of the key findings of the Partnership's Strategic Assessment 2018. It will identify the key priorities for the Community Safety Partnership, which will enable us to focus on ensuring that Medway is a great place to work, live, learn and visit.



Councillor Adrian Gulvin
Portfolio Holder for Resources and Chair of the Community Safety Partnership

Executive Summary

The Strategic Assessment continues to focus on the five priorities identified in the Community Safety Plan. These priorities are –

- Strengthening Communities
- Supporting Victims and Tackling Offenders of Sexual and Domestic Abuse
- Tackling the Harm Caused by Substance Misuse
- Reducing Re-offending
- Commitment to Safeguarding and Improving Services

With regard to **Strengthening Communities**, the creation of an Anti-Social Behaviour Team within the Community Safety Team has allowed for a more joined up approach to repeat and complex cases of anti-social behaviour (ASB). A total of 120 Community Protection Warnings (CPW's) and 22 Community Protection Notices (CPN's) were issued in the first 6 months of the team being in post which have been effective in preventing ASB. Work is continuing around the further use of civil powers to tackle ASB, as well as tackling other forms of criminality.

The Community Safety Operational Group has been rebranded the Community Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). This is to bring it into line with other areas and to create a better understanding of what the meetings are for. Referrals continue to be received from various agencies which are then discussed and assessed at the meetings.

Our next area of focus is **Supporting Victims and Tackling Offenders of Sexual and Domestic Abuse**.

The One Stop Shop continues to provide a crucial service to victims of domestic abuse giving them a way of accessing services to support them. Agencies continue to support both the Domestic Abuse Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference and Domestic Abuse Board to ensure that both high and medium risk victims are given the appropriate levels of support.

This priority also aims to combat youth violence. County Lines mainly from London Borough's continue to be an emerging concern in Medway. The Kent and Medway Gang's Strategy outlines the key concerns as well as an action plan for agencies to work towards. There have been a number of early interventions from a project known as 'StepBack' which involved Medway Youth Service, the Community Safety Team, Kent Police and Medway Sports Team. With regard to young people, the key focus has been around giving them the tools understand the risks and giving them the confidence to not get involved, as well as forming healthy relationships.

Within the priority of **Tackling the Harm Caused by Substance Misuse**, there has been a large amount of work focussed around homelessness and begging. Medway Council's Housing Team received a £410,000 grant to help reduce the number of people rough sleeping in Medway. Further funding has now been received making a total of nearly £1,000,000. A Rough Sleeper Coordinator and Private Sector Brokerage Worker have been recruited to coordinate this work. There have been several successes in Medway around substance misuse with the number of deaths from drug misuse falling in the last two years which is the opposite of the trend seen nationally.

In terms of **Reducing Re-offending**, The multi-agency approach to managing offenders under the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) has seen 40 offenders worked with (as at 9.3.18) with a minus 92% change in the number of offences committed before and during IOM. A 'threat risk and harm' approach is now being taken with individuals placed into priority groups, based on their behaviour and past offending. This has broadened the remit of IOM to incorporate, in particular domestic abuse and serious violence.

Careful attention will need to be paid to any changes as a consequence of the Ministry of Justice's decision to terminate the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) Contracts early due to the adverse national publicity received by CRC's. Kent Sussex & Surrey CRC has been widely recognised (e.g. by Her Majesty's Prison & Probation Service, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation) as a well performing area in the short term it is unsettling for staff but steps are being taken to minimise the impact on service delivery.

Kent Fire and Rescue Service continue to take ownership of **the Commitment to Safeguarding and Improving Services priority**. There has been particular focus on vulnerable people with the promotion and undertaking of Safe and Well visits. Following the tragic events of Grenfell, KFRS have carried out a series of targeted inspections of all high rise buildings across Medway. The inspections were carried out to facilitate a number of key elements which include public reassurance, auditing and updating of current information held and crew familiarisation.

The campaign, '#gotduckedfellin' is also being promoted in social media and at student events such as Fresher's Week which focuses on the dangers of alcohol consumption and water safety.

The CSP continues to use social media to promote and communicate community safety issues as well as advertising dates for events run by teams such as community engagements.

Key Partnership Meetings

Community Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference

The Community MARAC is led by the Community Safety Team for Medway Council. The meetings are held every 6 weeks and discuss the high level and complex cases of anti-social behaviour, crime and vulnerable adults. Key agencies that attend these meetings include Kent Police, KFRS, Housing Providers, Adult Social Care, Community Wardens, Environmental Enforcement and Environmental Protection Teams. The meetings aim to ensure that a joined up approach is taken on cases and that effective communication takes place to try and resolve the case.

Serious Organised Crime Partnership (SOCP)

The Serious Organised Crime Partnership (SOCP) reviews cases committed by organised crime groups (OCG's). These cases, for example, may include drug supply, modern day slavery, money laundering or illegal tobacco. The meetings are led by Medway's Community Safety Unit Inspector with the Community Safety Manager as vice-chair. The meeting takes a multi-agency approach to tackling organised crime and is well attended with representation from Kent Police, Trading Standards, Housing Providers, Environmental Enforcement and the Counter-fraud team as examples. Referrals can be made by any of the agencies and the Kent Police OCG Co-ordinator for North Kent will manage these on a day-to-day basis.

Blue Light Project

The Medway Blue Light Project is an innovative multi agency approach, facilitated by Medway Council's Public Health Department (in partnership with Alcohol Concern), to inform joint interventions aimed at adult substance misusers with complex needs and with a history of poor engagement with services. The cohort is characterised by ongoing involvement in anti-social behaviour in Medway's town centres, with the majority of the caseload drawn from members of Medway's street homeless community.

The project has an Operations Group that meets on a monthly basis to discuss nominations to the caseload and agree shared approaches that offer supported engagement with current provision. It also aims to reduce the costs associated with the group for agencies and partners. The Operations Group is attended by a wide range of services and partners, including: Kent Police, KSS CRC, Medway Council Social Care, Medway Maritime Hospital, Medway Council Strategic Housing Team, the Community Safety Team, Turning Point (the specialist substance misuse treatment service), supported housing providers and other groups working primarily with the homeless. There is also regular participation from community mental health services.

Multi-agency Prevent Board

Medway Council continue to coordinate and Chair the Prevent Multi-Agency Group to oversee Prevent delivery. The Prevent Board's responsibilities include maintaining oversight of all statutory Prevent delivery, including referral pathways and Channel; agreeing and updating the agreed risk assessment and the partnership plan; facilitating the sharing of information amongst partners and monitoring and reviewing performance. This group also ensures that relevant staff are trained to understand what Prevent is and the process for making referrals into Channel.

Channel Panel

Channel is a voluntary, confidential programme which provides support to individuals who are vulnerable to being drawn into any form of terrorism. The programme was placed on a statutory basis in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. Channel identifies individuals at risk, assesses the nature and extent of that risk and develops appropriate support plans for the individual. It aims to ensure that vulnerable children and adults of any faith, ethnicity or background receive support before their vulnerabilities are exploited by those that would want them to embrace terrorism or they become involved in criminal terrorist related activity.

The Channel Panel has been in place for a number of years and is chaired by Medway Council. This process takes referrals for individuals who are vulnerable to radicalisation who can be offered targeted and appropriate voluntary support. This panel has representation from all relevant sectors including health, adults' and children's safeguarding, housing, probation providers, as well as Counter Terrorism Policing South East.

Domestic Abuse Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

Domestic Abuse MARAC meetings take place on a weekly basis in Medway unlike other MARAC'S in Kent. They facilitate, monitor and evaluate effective information sharing to enable appropriate actions in high risk domestic abuse cases. In Medway the MARAC is well supported by a number of agencies including Kent Police, Adult and Children's social care, housing providers, mental health and other statutory and voluntary partners. This enables a joint multi-agency safety plan for victims. Referrals are multi-agency although on average Kent Police accounts for 78% of them. Victims do not attend the MARAC and are instead represented by an Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA).

Overview

Priority	What we have been doing
Strengthening Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community MARAC meets monthly focussing on repeat or complex cases under Offender, Victim and Location categories. • An anti-social behaviour team has been created. The team of 2 Officers are now operational. Since May 2018 to September 2018 over 100 CPW's have been issued. • PACTS continue to be supported by PCSO's and Community Wardens – there are currently 11 PACTS in Medway. • Community Safety Team continues to explore opportunities for multi-agency community engagement events
Supporting Victims and Tackling Offenders of Sexual and Domestic Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Intelligence Coordinator Role within the Medway Community Safety Unit to assist with partnership working. • There are now 7 established 3rd party reporting hubs for Hate Crime. • Successful funding bids has seen a number of early interventions around youth crime and violence. • Vulnerable Adult PCSO (VAIO) in place and cases involving high risk vulnerable adults are managed via THEMIS, with the VAIO liaising with partner agencies.
Reduce re-offending	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good level of completion of Community Orders and Suspended Sentence Orders at 83.69% (target 75%, data based on April-June 2018 Update) • Completion of Licence and Post Sentence Supervision Period has increased to 82.61% from 78.5% last year (data based on April-June 2018 Update)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 94.44% of adults sentenced to unpaid community work have successfully completed their orders. • Weapons awareness group work course targeted at those at risk of committing such offences.
Tackle the Harm Caused by Substance Misuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medway Council has been awarding funding totaling nearly £1,000,000 to tackle homelessness. • Medway Rough Sleepers' Charter in place to ensure agencies work together to help rough sleepers gain and maintain accommodation and gain access to support pathways. • Pilot being run with GP Practices with a view to reducing the levels of opiate prescribing. • Illicit tobacco roadshows held in town centre locations.
Commitment to Safeguarding and Improving Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Water Safety Group continues to take shape, and is supported by adjoining boroughs as well as KFRS, RNLI, KSAR and Medway Council. • Water safety campaign #gotduckedfelin launched in May 18. • Safer Living Service is a new initiative designed to assist with fire safety in Specialised Housing such as Sheltered Housing or Supported Housing. • Social media accounts used to publicise useful safety information and events taking place across the CSP.

Crime Picture in Context

Following a Crime Data Integrity Inspection it was found that changes needed to be made to the way crime was being recorded to ensure nothing was missed. One change to reporting is the recording of third party reports. If for example, someone witnesses what they believe is a fight on the street, even if the police attend and find no evidence of a fight it is still recorded.

These new recording procedures can be seen to be reflected in the number of crime reports generated from a single incident. Where previously there may have been one crime report for an incident to cover all elements, these are now broken down into multiple reports. So the actual number of incidents may not have increased but rather the number of reports generated by those incidents. The recent cases in the media around sexual exploitation and historic child abuse cases has seen an increase in the reporting of this type of crime and whilst some offences are still subject to the statutory time limits they are still recorded.

It is through the hard work of many agencies that there has been a higher level of reporting of domestic abuse, this type of offence has for many years remained a largely hidden figure. A greater effort is made to record historic offences that are disclosed by victims during the Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Honour Based Violence (DASH) risk assessment questions. It is likely that taking these factors into account that crime has not increased as sharply as it first

seems but rather the recording of it has improved and it is highly likely that we will see a plateau effect over the coming years.

Incidents of ASB continue to fall. The restructuring of the Police Community Support Officers has seen a number of them move into specialised roles which has had a positive effect in reducing ASB. This has included targeted work by Youth Engagement Officer's to work with those committing low-level ASB acting as an early intervention tool. The highest number of complaints appear to be due to rowdy and nuisance gathering and this will include incidents of nuisance vehicles at car meets, which there has been a lot of proactive work carried out by both Kent Police and the Community Safety Team's ASB Officers.

There has been a change in the categorisation of burglary offences which makes reporting on any change in the figures when compared to last year very difficult as they don't correspond. Burglary residential now includes sheds and garages which would make the overall figure for residential burglaries look higher but the actual number of homes being burgled is actually falling.

All Recorded Crime																											
Level of Crime	<p>31,382 recorded crimes between Apr 17 – Mar 18 (Kent Police published data)</p> <p>113.05 per 1000 people (Based on Q1 2018, ending 12 months, and mid-year population estimate from the Office of National Statistics, available at lginform.gov.uk)</p>																										
Peer Comparison	13th highest number of recorded crimes for Unitary Authorities (56 responding authorities, lginform.gov.uk)																										
Annual Change	<p>35.7% Increase</p> <p>8257 additional crimes recorded compared to April 16- March 17 (Kent Police published data)</p>																										
General Trend	<table border="1"> <caption>General Trend Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Period</th> <th>Recorded Crimes</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Apr 13 - Mar 14</td> <td>~18,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Apr 14 - Mar 15</td> <td>~19,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Apr 15 - Mar 16</td> <td>~20,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Apr 16 - Mar 17</td> <td>~23,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Apr 17 - Mar 18</td> <td>~31,382</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Period	Recorded Crimes	Apr 13 - Mar 14	~18,000	Apr 14 - Mar 15	~19,000	Apr 15 - Mar 16	~20,000	Apr 16 - Mar 17	~23,000	Apr 17 - Mar 18	~31,382														
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ASB																											
No of Incidents	<p>7100 incidents between Apr 17- Mar 18 (Based on Kent Police data available Sept 2018)</p> <p>26 incidents per 1000 people (Based on the mid-year population estimate from the Office of National Statistics)</p>																										
Annual Change	<p>18% decrease</p> <p>1600 fewer incidents (Compared with the final figure of 8700 between Apr 16-Mar 17)</p>																										
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Hotspots	<p>Top 5 Wards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River • Gillingham North • Gillingham South • Luton and Wayfield • Strood South <p>These 5 Wards account for 47% of all ASB incidents in Medway.</p>																										

Progress on Existing Priorities

Strengthening Communities

The multi-agency meeting previously known as the CSP Operational Group is now known as the Community MARAC (Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference). This is to bring the meeting in line with other local authority areas. The meetings continue to focus on repeat victims, offenders and location. Agencies continue to refer cases, often their 'top 5', that would benefit from a multi-agency approach. Attendance continues from a wide range of partners including but not limited to Kent Police, KFRS, Housing Providers, Adult Social Care, Community Wardens, Environmental Enforcement and the Environmental Protection Team. From November 2017 to October 2018, 83 complex issues have been addressed by this group. A further 145 different issues have been discussed on the daily community safety conference call, involving the Community Safety Team, Kent Police, all 3 whole time fire stations (Rochester, Chatham and Strood), Medway Council Housing and the Community Wardens. There have been no Community Trigger cases in 2018. This is likely due to the review of cases by the Community Safety Unit to ensure cases are dealt with appropriately in the first instance, as well as the work of the Community MARAC.

Medway Council has now formed an Anti-social Behaviour Team within the Community Safety Team based at Medway Police Station, to deal with repeat and complex cases of ASB. There is currently a Senior ASB Officer and an ASB Officer who work in partnership with agencies such as Kent Police and Housing Providers. This has seen a new way of working on some of the more complex cases of ASB, and has proved a more effective way of working in partnership with various agencies. This has been further complimented by the restructure of the Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's). This has led to the grouping of wards which has ensured a continuity of PCSO visibility and engagement. The specialist PCSO's such as the Youth Engagement Officers have been in post since November 2017 and this has had an added benefit of improving a joined up approach with other agencies.

The ASB Team have been working to tackle issues with nuisance vehicles including 'car meets'. Operation Brake was created by the team to focus on issues caused by nuisance vehicles such as noise complaints, littering, and general concerns around the way vehicles were being driven. The team visited events held in a retail park area and issued CPW's to those found to be causing a nuisance. They have also worked with stakeholders such as local supermarkets to ensure that notices advising those organising car meets that they are doing so without authorisation and are effectively trespassing. This has had a positive effect on preventing events taking place in areas where there could be a risk of nuisance or even harm to the general public.

The multi-agency approach to ASB has seen a number of successful results. In addition to the CPWs and CPNs issued by the ASB Team, PCSO's have also used Section 59 warning notices (issued for anti-social use of a motor vehicle) under the Police Reform Act 2002 to tackle nuisance motorbikes.

There has also been a lot of work around nuisance pedal cycles. Concerns were raised in a number of locations such as Rochester Multi-storey car park. The Community Safety Unit tasked the PCSO's with patrolling as a target areas for the anti-social behaviour car. Work was undertaken to link the security that was put in place with the police to ensure that any issues were spotted quickly and dealt with appropriately. The Youth Service also undertook some detached work in the area to try and engage with any young people who were potentially involved in ASB. Where young people were identified as being involved, home visits were undertaken and acceptable behaviour agreements used to try and work with young people and give them a better understanding of why their behaviour was anti-social.

There continues to be a focus on Town Centre areas across Medway from a range of agencies. Kent Police continue to commit resources to our High Street areas, with a number of officers and PCSO's assigned to those areas. They work a varied shift pattern which provides the best use of resources and this is supported further when required by local officers. The High Street teams work closely with the Community Safety Unit and Medway Council's ASB Team to tackle issues that arise in the high street areas. Officer's carry 'Shop Safe' radios to help with communication with local businesses. Kent Police and various Medway Council departments support the Town Centre Forums.

The Serious and Organised Crime Partnership is now well established with cases also being referred by non-police agencies. Work has begun around OCG's identified by Medway Council's Trading Standards Team, Environmental Enforcement and Audit and Counter Fraud. Concerns around problem youths and the potential for gang affiliation will be discussed at Area Hub Meetings as they will be attended by professionals who are dealing with young people in that specific area and who will no doubt be working on the same cases. Young people at risk of harm from gang affiliation, CSE and any other exploitation will be referred to the Vulnerabilities Panel.

Medway Council continue to work with partners to tackle the issues that arise from illegal encampments. Since January 2018 Medway Council's Strategic Housing Team have dealt with 29 encampments which have been evicted from Council land. The team continue to deal with any illegal encampments as swiftly and effectively as they possibly can. Work to streamline the processes involved in tackling encampments has seen most dealt with within five working days where the availability of court and bailiffs has allowed. Work has also been undertaken to review the vulnerability of sites to ensure they are less likely to suffer incursions.

The Community Safety Team continues to work with partners on a number of events to engage with the community. This includes personal safety advice at coffee mornings, promoting youth sport events and partnership events such as Fire and Police Station open days. The Community Safety Team has been working closely with local banks and the Trading Standards Team to engage with members of the public and raise awareness of scams. There are further events planned with the High Street policing teams for the busy Christmas period with a focus on fraud, purse snatches and sales of fake goods such as toys. The CSP also holds an annual Consultation Event where they seek to identify the issues that concern those who live, work and socialise in Medway.

Supporting Victims and Tackling Offenders of Sexual and Domestic Abuse

Under the New Horizon programme there are now two dedicated Police Community Support Officers in the Vulnerability Investigation Team (VIT) who work to support work around domestic abuse, particularly in supporting victims. The PCSO's work closely with the Domestic Abuse One Stop Shop which continues to run every Tuesday at the Sunlight Centre in Gillingham. The Domestic Abuse Board continues to work with medium risk victims not eligible for MARAC targeting. Local domestic abuse services are due to be recommissioned to deliver a single integrated domestic abuse service for Medway.

The Medway Safeguarding Children's Board (MSCB) continues to focus on domestic abuse as one of their priorities. They continue to deliver multi-agency training packages such as 'Domestic Abuse and Safeguarding Children', 'Domestic Abuse and the Effect on Children' and 'DASH' training. MSCB are currently developing Adolescent to parent violence training. The new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) provides the opportunity to improve multi-agency information sharing. It has allowed for live domestic abuse triage to the Police Central Referral Unit (CRU) when an incident is reported to support first responders and a virtual triage to the MASH from police when attending an incident where children are involved.

There has been a lot of work around the development of third party reporting hubs for Hate Crime in Medway. There are currently 7 established hubs where staff have undertaken the relevant training to deal with reports they receive. A second Community Liaison Officer has also been appointed to support the ongoing work to tackle hate crime. Every hate crime is reviewed daily and the Police Community Liaison Officer makes direct contact with victims.

The Community Policing Team (CPT) continue to take ownership for elements of Kent Police's Control Strategy. Each member performs a single point of contact (SPOC) function in relation to gangs, child sexual exploitation (CSE), human trafficking and modern day slavery. This ensures a consistent approach. CPT work closely with the Community Safety Team around all of these issues as well as organised crime. This includes reviewing options for the use of civil orders to tackle some of the issues highlighted in Medway. In cases of suspected human trafficking the Community Policing Team have supported victims with the National Referral Mechanism which was put in place to identify victims and refer them to organisations that will offer help and support.

A successful funding bid the Home Office Knife Crime Community Fund was made in October 2017 by The Woodland's Centre in Gillingham. This bid was supported by the CSP, Medway Youth Service and Medway Sports Team as well as other agencies. Through partnership working the team were able to provide a pilot education sessions in several secondary schools aimed at pupils in years 7 and 8. Professional sessions also went ahead and from this the team were able to identify that a lot of professionals had good knowledge of the behaviour concerns and grooming methods used by gangs but there is need for more tools for professionals to use to help young people.

The project also focused not only on education but on providing young people, particular those that were being worked with already, a diversion into positive activities. Youth engagement and sport activities took place across Medway in areas identified as most in need. The project was branded as 'StepBack' giving young people an opportunity to reflect on their actions and the consequences and to make better choices. Sessions in the most needed areas have been able to continue through various funding methods to ensure a lasting effect on young people.

From this pilot project there has been a strong focus from various agencies on developing both education programmes but also early intervention activities. A further successful bid to the Home Office Knife Crime Community Fund was made by St Margaret's Church in Rainham which incorporates a variety of education based interventions as well as conflict management training for staff and mentoring programmes. Medway Youth Service are currently developing a One Stop Shop for young people which will also be somewhere for other professionals to guide young people towards. 'StepBack' is currently developing the youth and sports activities with a view to further training for young people, giving them the opportunity to guide others in their community and also develop their own skills at the same time.

Further work has been undertaken to tackle mental health concerns. A joint response unit has been commissioned through SECAMB and Kent Police to attend mental health calls on Friday and Saturday nights. The introduction of the Vulnerable Adult Intervention Officer (VAIO) role means there is a dedicated PCSO in post to work with vulnerable adults and ensure that partners work together to find the best outcomes for the vulnerable person. The VAIO manages all their high risk cases on the case management system Themis. There are plans to recruit a mental health worker to work across all rough sleeper services to make sure that needs are diagnosed and the appropriate support offered. The Youth Offending Team have appointed a mental health worker within the team to address mental health concerns in young people within the criminal justice system.

Tackling the Harm Caused by Substance Misuse

A key objective under the priority of tackling the harm caused by substance misuse is addressing homelessness and begging. Working with partner agencies, the Housing Service have been able to secure funding for a Housing First Project which will see rough sleepers with the most complex needs supported into accommodation. An additional £410,000 of

Government funding has also been awarded to Medway Council for a variety of projects to tackle rough sleeping. A Rough Sleeper Coordinator and Private Sector Brokerage Worker are now in post which has led to a more strategic approach to tackling rough sleeping and has seen a number of individuals housed with additional support services to ensure they can sustain the tenancy.

Kent Police continue to support initiatives such as the Blue Light Project. The project continues to be a multi-agency approach to those facing serious and multiple disadvantage. This includes work to reduce the 'toxic trio' of homelessness, substance misuse and criminal activities. A 'Medway Rough Sleeper's Charter' is in place which partner agencies have signed up to which outlines how they will work together to help rough sleepers maintain accommodation and gain access to support pathways. There is also multi-agency support for the Rough Sleepers Group where partners work to reduce rough sleeping in the high street areas. Medway Police's High Street teams will assist with homeless street counts to ensure rough sleepers can be located and engaged with.

Using data from Public Health England we can identify many successes within Medway in tackling substance misuse. Latest data indicates increases in successful completions for opiates, non-opiates and alcohol. The data also shows the number of deaths from drug misuse has fallen in the last two years which is the opposite of the trend seen nationally. Although largely positive, there is concern that the mortality ratio for those accessing substance misuse treatment services in Medway is higher than the average across England according to the PHE data and work is underway to understand the cases behind the data and identify possible interventions to reduce this ratio.

Substance misuse services have been remodelled and commissioned in 2018. The service now comprises of an 'Engagement, Assessment, Stabilisation and Treatment Service delivered by Turning Point and a 'Wellbeing and Recovery' service delivered by Open Road. Treatment services have produced action plans to increase the numbers of people accessing structured treatment and to work to reduce the number of deaths of those in treatment. Pilot work has been carried out by the treatment service provider and the Clinical Commissioning Group to carry out opiate reviews within a GP Practice.

A 'Sudden and Unexpected Drug Related Death Panel' has been established with robust information sharing agreements to maximise learning from reported deaths. Data from the Coroner's Office, service providers, housing providers and other agencies has helped to support this work. Naloxone is available and actively distributed to those at risk of an opiate overdose.

Reducing Re-offending

The total caseload of adult offenders managed by probation services in Medway fluctuates over time but has shown a slight over the last two years - 851 in August 2016 and 878 in August 2018. The total figures mask a decrease in the rehabilitation team caseload (community sentences) and increase in the resettlement team (release on prison licences) from 300 on 31 August 2016 to 390 on 25 September 2017.

There has been an increase in post release supervision which is likely to be due to the impact of the Offender Rehabilitation Act (OAR) which came into force on 1 February 2015 and extended supervision to offenders released from short prison sentences of less than 12 months. This has meant that any person whose offence was committed on or after 1 February 2015 who is sentenced to a custodial term of more than 1 day and is 18 years and over, now receives Through The Gate (TTG) resettlement and a minimum of 12 months post release supervision. The reduction in the community caseload mirrors a steady decrease across Kent Surrey Sussex CRC, although it is noted that organisation wide it is now levelling out.

Locally, the CRC work with Police, National Probation Service, Youth Offending Team and local partners to manage 40 offenders under Integrated Offender Management (IOM) (as at 9 March 2018) with a minus 92% change in the number of offences committed before and during IOM. The cohort has transitioned away from the emphasis on serious acquisitive crime to a 'threat risk and harm' approach with individuals placed into priority groups, based on their behaviour and past offending. This has broadened the remit of IOM to incorporate, in particular domestic abuse and serious violence.

The CRC has delivered a comprehensive range of interventions. This includes Building Better Relationships, accredited by the Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) and a lower intensity group work programme delivered to adult male perpetrators of domestic abuse. Additional programmes include thinking skills and employment skills. 94.44 % of adults sentenced to Unpaid Community Work have successfully completed their orders. Medway Community Safety Team continue to work with the CRC on the Community Payback scheme where those sentenced to unpaid work will littler pick or clear overgrown land with 181 jobs completed between April and September 2018.

An ongoing concern is the impact of the Ministry of Justice's decision to terminate the CRC's Contracts early due to the adverse national publicity received by CRC's. KSS CRC has been widely recognised as a well performing area and it is hoped that the re-contracting will help to restore public confidence. However, in the short term it is unsettling for staff and may have some impact on the ability to recruit. Steps are being taken to minimise the impact on service delivery and keep the staff and stakeholders informed.

Commitment to Safeguarding and Improving Services

In Medway there has been a slight increase in accidental fires coupled with a small reduction in deliberate fires over the last three years and fire activity has increased across the county as a whole. The numbers of rubbish and outdoor fires are heavily influenced by the weather so long spells of dry weather conditions will often result in an increase in activity. This has been especially true of Summer 2018. Numbers of property fires remained fairly constant whilst vehicle fires have shown a slight increase.

Fire safety in the home continues to be a priority for Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS) even though there has been no significant change in the levels of demand. It has been identified that those aged over 70 years are more at risk of suffering a serious injury, or even death, following a fire in the home. An increased trend in the ageing population continues resulting in more slips, trips, falls and home safety incidents. KFRS invests significant resource into engaging with the most vulnerable people in our community and have a specialist team as well as fire crews delivering safe and well visits. Over the last few years KFRS has utilised Exeter data provided by the NHS to target the most vulnerable members of our community as well as carrying out community engagement following an incident.

KFRS are also engaging in the Medway pilot to target social isolation and are actively participating in the social isolation strategy group. Vulnerable people are also identified by other agencies and are able to use a referral form to request a safe and well visit. Several cases from the Community MARAC have been referred for safe and well visits with cases involving socially isolated individuals. Hoarders a particular concern in light of the high amount of combustible materials and blocked escape routes. Since the Grenfell incident, KFRS have carried out a targeted inspection programme of all high rise buildings across Kent and Medway. The inspections were carried out to facilitate a number of key elements which include public reassurance, auditing and updating of current information held and crew familiarisation.

This year Kent Fire and Rescue have run the 'Show You Care' campaign where KFRS is calling on people to think about how they can help someone they know by calling in for a chat and even think about helping with our 'Simple steps to staying safe and well' which will help reduce the fire risk in their home. We have rolled out KFRS 'Safer living' campaign which is applicable to all specialised housing. This initiative involves a multi department approach to improve resident's awareness on home safety.

In response to the rise in road traffic collisions we have carried out a targeted promotion of the Road Safety Experience (RSE) in schools as well as a number of events at heavy footfall locations i.e. shopping centres. We would expect to see an increase in attendances at the RSE over the coming months following this targeted activity. This is in addition to the regular programme of road traffic collision prevention work such as 'License to Kill', fire bike events and targeted campaigns. We are also focusing on the emerging risk of fleet drivers and have trialled a number sessions at the Road Safety Experience.

A North Kent Water Safety Group has been created to address the broad issues of water safety and river usage. The group includes KFRS, Medway Council, RNLI, Kent Search and Rescue and colleagues from neighbouring boroughs. The campaign, '#gotduckedfellin' is being promoted in identified risk areas and engagement work around water safety will take place during Fresher Week at Universities. Medway Council's Community Wardens have done an audit of the lifesaving equipment that will be mapped across attended incidents to inform future planning.

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Listening to the Public

The Community Safety Team has continued to support a large number of community events. Particular focus has been given to working with Trading Standards and Banks around work to reduce the number of people falling victim to scams. This has included running stalls in backs to allow the opportunity to offer advice but to also hand out literature on scams, the Medway Trusted Trader List and also cold calling stickers to protect against door step scams. Work with Housing Providers and Kent Police to undertake engagement events in hotspot areas for anti-social behaviour continues. Medway Council's HRA team also organised a multi-agency Summer Event in August that was open to the wider Community in Rainham and are also working to recommission the Rainbow Room in Gillingham to allow its use by various agencies allowing the local community more opportunity to engage with services.

A multi-agency team has worked tirelessly to engage with young people in Medway. The StepBack project has seen engagement in both schools and in the local areas where young people like to socialise. The weekly evening sessions have been well attended and provided something during term time to compliment the Park Sport sessions that take place during the school holidays. This is a great time to engage young people whilst they are undertaking an activity they enjoy and also away from where they may be suffering from any issues. The Youth Service continue to undertake detached work, at times in multi-agency groups with other services that can support young people.

A Youth Consultation Event took place in July and despite the clash with England's World Cup Match against Columbia, young people that did attend played a full and active part. Although the low number of young people attending was disappointing the table top discussions that were able to take place with professionals from a variety of organisations were very encouraging. Young people had knowledge of gangs for example and the negative impact they can have but also felt that perception was possibly greater than the actual numbers of young people involved in Medway. Young people also wanted more community events and open days to enable them to engage with services and more social media interaction.

The Community Safety Manager in partnership with the Community Safety Unit Inspector hold a monthly 'Member's Surgery' for all elected Members and Parish Councillors. This allows them to raise any issues within their Community. Since the surgery began in November 2018 to October 2018, there has been 29 visits by Councillors, with 17 from elected Members and 12 from Parish Councillors.

The Independent Police Advisory Group (IPAG) continues to bring together a diverse range of communities and groups who are represented by volunteers who offer independent advice to Kent Police on a range of matters that affect the local community. The creation of the Youth Police Advisory Group has seen young people given a voice in these matters to. Made up of young volunteers the group aim to improve police engagement with young people.

Background and Data Information

Annual strategic assessments of crime and disorder are carried out to satisfy the requirement under Regulation 5 of the Formulation and Implementation of Strategy Regulations 2007.

The assessment is based upon information that has been made available by partner agencies and information available in open source material. The data will have some limitations; it is not always possible to get the same time frame from every source as Partners measure their data in different ways. It should also be noted that not all data has been cleansed due to the large volume.

The following is a list of data sources used to inform the strategic assessment.

- Community Safety Partnership Plan 2017-18 and 2018-19
- Kent Police – Published crime data April 2017- March 18, Control Strategy.
- Medway Clinical Commissioning Group
- Medway Council – Community Safety Team
- Medway Council – Strategic Housing and HRA.
- Medway Council – Public Health
- Medway Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Kent Fire and Rescue Service
- Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehab Company
- Local Government Association – LG Inform Database
- Public Health England – Local Health, www.localhealth.org.uk

Glossary of Terms

ASB	Anti-social behaviour
CCG	Clinical Commissioning Group
CPN	Community Protection Notice
CPT	Community Policing Team
CPW	Community Protection Warning
CRU	Central Referral Unit
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
DASH	Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Honour Based Violence Risk Assessment
HMPPS	Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service
IDVA	Independent Domestic Abuse Advisor
IOM	Integrated Offender Management
KFRS	Kent Fire and Rescue Service
KSAR	Kent Search and Rescue
KSS CRC	Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company
MARAC	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference
MASH	Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub
MSCB	Medway Safeguarding Children's Board
NHS	National Health Service
NPS	National Probation Service
OCG	Organised Crime Group
PACTS	Partners and Communities Together
PCSO	Police Community Support Officer
RTC	Road traffic collision
SECAmb	South East Coast Ambulance Service
SOCP	Serious and Organised Crime Partnership
SPOC	Single Point of Contact
VAIO	Vulnerable Adult Intervention Officer
VIT	Vulnerabilities Investigation Team
YOT	Youth Offending Team

Appendix

Figure 1: Breakdown of Crime Types shown in All Crime Summary (Pg. 9)

Violent Crime
- Violence Against The Person
- Homicide
- Violence with injury
- Violence without injury
- Most Serious Violence
- Sexual Offences
- Rape
- Other sexual offences
- Robbery
Burglary Dwelling
Burglary Other than Dwelling
Burglary - Residential
Burglary - Business and Community
Vehicle Crime
- Theft Of Motor Vehicle
- Theft From Motor Vehicle
Vehicle Interference
Theft and Handling Exc VI
- Shoplifting
- Theft of Pedal cycle
- Other Theft
Criminal Damage
- Arson
- Criminal damage
Crimes against society
Drug Offences
- Trafficking
- Possession of drugs
Possession of weapons
Public order offences
Other crimes

**Figure 2: Crime Report Figures by Ward covering the time period April 2017 – March 2018.
(Kent Police Crime Data, percentages are rounded up)**

Ward	% ASB
River	10.79
Gillingham South	10
Gillingham North	8.97
Chatham Central	7.21
Luton and Wayfield	6.83
Strood South	6.45
Rochester West	5.2
Strood North	4.3
Twydall	4
Strood Rural	4
Rochester South and Horsted	3.6
Rochester East	3.4
Miscellaneous	3.1
Peninsula	3
Watling	3
Princes Park	2.6
Rainham North	2.3
Rainham South	2.2
Rainham Central	2.2
Walderslade	2.1
Lordswood and Capstone	1.8
Hempstead and Wigmore	7.4
Cuxton and Halling	0.98

Figure 3: ASB Figures by Ward covering the time period April 2017 – March 2018. (Kent Police ASB Data, percentages are rounded up)

ASB Reports April 17-March 18	
Ward	% of ASB
River	12.18
Gillingham North	10.30
Gillingham South	9.85
Luton and Wayfield	7.60
Strood South	6.92
Chatham Central	6.88
Rochester West	5.92
Strood Rural	4.14
Peninsula	3.74
Twydall	3.73
Lordswood and Capstone	3.6
Strood North	3.35
Princes Park	2.98
Rainham North	2.81
Rochester South and Horsted	2.69
Watling	2.42
Rochester East	2.32
Rainham South	2.31
Walderslade	2.2
Rainham Central	2.04
Cuxton and Halling	0.9
Hempstead and Wigmore	0.83
Miscellaneous	0.28